THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The request is still under consideration of the Ministry of Finance.

Bill for welfare of dock workers

1050. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a Bill for the safety, health and welfare of dock workers; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when the Bill is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) and (b) The Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Bill, 1985 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 29th August, 1985. Action for further processing of the Bill in the Current Session of the Parliament has been taken up.

ESI Dispensary at Cauvery Nagar Pudukkottai in Tamil Nadu

1051. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from the workers' organisations in Pudukkottai regarding non-functioning of E.S.I. Dispensary at Cauvery Nagar, Pudukkottai District in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to meet the workers' demand and streamline the functioning of the above E.S.I. dispensary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) No specific complaints seems to have been received. The administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme is, however, the statutory responsibility of the respective State Government. According to the Government of Tamil Nadu, the ESI dispensary at Pudukkottai has been functioning normally.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Import of Capital Goods

1052. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of import of capital goods year-wise from 1979-80 to 1984-85; and

(b) what is the increase or decrease in the import of capital goods in percentage terms, year-wise, during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement showing the total value of imports of complete machinery and equipment during 1979-80 to 1982-83 and increase or decrease percentage, year-wise, is attached. Figures for the period from March, 1983 onwards are not yet available.

Statement

*Import of complete machinery *and equipments during the years 1979-80 to 1982-83 and percentage increase or decrease year-wise*

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Description of item	1979-80	% increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1979-80 over 1978-79	1980-81	% Increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1980-81 over 1979-80	1981-82	% increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1981-82 over 1980-81	1982-83	% increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1982-83 over 1981-82
Complete Machinery and Equipments	593·59	(-)15·6	918·25	(+)54·7	963·54	(+) 4·9	1213·08	(+)25·9

*(Excluding spares & components)

SOURCE-I.— For 1979-80 to 1981-82:Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II (IMPORTS) Published by Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

SOURCE-II.— For 1982-83 Advance data received in the Office of the Economic Adviser from Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

Loss incurred by NTC Mills

1053. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total accumulated loss in the textile mill run by the National Textile Corporation so far;

(b) what are the factors responsible for such a huge loss; and

(c) what steps have been or are being taken to run the National Textile Corporation mills on a profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) National Textile Corporation has incurred losses to the extent of about Rs 670 crores from 1974-75 to Sept. 1985.

(b) The major reasons for continuous losses of the mills under NTC eare as follows:—

1. Old and obselete machinery;

2. under-utilisation of installed capacity due to irregular power supply and power shortage, high cost of captive power etc;

3. abnormal increase in cotton prices, particularly from the middle of 1980-81 to 1984-85;

4. increase in cost of power, coal, dyes and chemicals, stores and spares;

5. excess labour force;

6. increase in wages/salaries;

7. poor work norms and low productivity.

(c) Some of the important steps taken/being taken, within the limited resources, to improve the performance of the mills under NTC are as under:—

(1) arrangements are being made for timely procurement of cotton from different available channels;

(2) working capital has been replenished to make up for cash losses;

(3) to overcome the power shortage self-generating capacity has been provided;